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Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

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Fee Requirement

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

This information disclosure statement:

___ is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 of the international application; or before the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee is required.

X is being filed after the time periods specified under § 1.97(b), but before the mailing of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, and:

___ it is certified that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, and therefore no fee is required; or

X it is certified that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, and therefore no fee is required; or

___ is accompanied by a check in the amount of \$ ___ as the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

___ is being filed after the time periods set forth in either §§ 1.97(b) or (c), but before payment of the issue fee, and includes a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement, a check in the amount of \$ ___ as the petition fee set forth in § 1.17(i)(1), and:

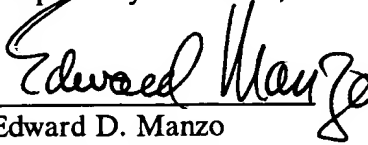
___ it is certified that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement; or

___ it is certified that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-3135 for any necessary IDS filing fee to the extent any enclosed funds are insufficient.

Date: 3-18-99

Respectfully submitted,



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